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SEWER VENTILATION.

We draw the attention of our readers and aldermen to the plan of sewer ventilation, as proposed by Dr. Rourk, and read, in the form of a paper, before the Citizens' Public Health Association, in December last. The Doctor proposes to have, at a given point, an exhaust power worked by an engine; and from this centre, he throws out a ramification of small piping along the top of the present sewers. At stated intervals, there are minute openings. As the exhaust causes a vacuum in the small piping, it is replaced by sewer-gas through the above-named openings, and as the gas is thus abstracted from the sewers, it is replaced by fresh air through the usual street gratings. The Doctor alleges that it is much cheaper in the end than Alderman McLaren's proposed plan, by a shaft thrown up through the centre of every house, and doubly as efficacious for the removal of sewer-gas, to which latter conclusion we are decidedly inclined. As to the expense, we will not attempt discussion. Suffice it to say that the Doctor's conclusions, in that respect, *seem* logical enough.

In Dr Rourk's plan, we see three great principles which should never be lost sight of when we attempt ventilation—1st. There is the abundant admission of fresh air into the sewers. 2nd.—The extraction of the foul gases; and 3rd.—The final destruction of them by being passed through the furnace. Captain Liernur has, by exhaust power, drawn solid sewage matter great distances most successfully, and how much easier would it be to dispose of the gases in a similar manner. We certainly recommend the earnest consideration of this plan to our readers and aldermen. In a future number we will again speak of it. Space will not allow of longer notice this month.